



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. (0320-0018) HOOV 118

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven, et al.

Serial No.: 10/015,862

Filed: December 12, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Kearney

For: TRANSMURAL ABLATION DEVICE
WITH SPRING LOADED JAWS

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Date of Deposit September 10, 2003

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
FILED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.114, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents, except U.S. Application 2002/0091384 A1, is provided in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/032,378, which is relied upon for an earlier effective filing date of the present application. U.S. Application 2002/0091384 A1 is the published application of U.S. Patent

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Application Serial No. 10/032,378, and thus this was not enclosed in Application Serial No. 10/032,378. Accordingly, a copy of U.S. Application 2002/0091384 is provided with this Request for Continued Examination.

No inference should be drawn that any method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

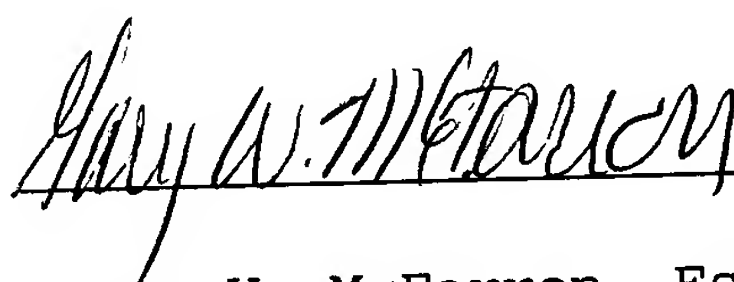
Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Request for Continued Examination is being filed after the mailing date of after the Notice of Allowance. Accordingly, a check for the amount of \$375.00, the fee for the submission of this Request for Continued Examination, is contained along with this cover letter and the Information Disclosure Statement. Additionally, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account 50-1039. (A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 10, 2003

By: _____


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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/015,862
Filing Date	December 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
Art Unit	3739
Examiner Name	Rosiland S. Kearney
Attorney Docket Number	0320-0018 (HOOV 118)

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 2,004,559	06-11-1935	Wappler, et al.	
	2	US- 3,470,875	10-07-1969	Johnson, et al.	
	3	US- 4,312,337	01-26-1982	Donohue, et al.	
	4	US- 5,033,477	07-23-1991	Chin, et al.	
	5	US- 5,071,428	12-10-1991	Chin et al.	
	6	US- 6,083,222	07-04-2000	Klien, et al.	
	7	US- 6,096,037	08-01-2000	Mulier, et al.	
	8	US- 6,443,970	09-03-2002	Schulze, et al.	
	9	US- 2002/0120263 A1	08-29-2002	Brown, Tony R. et al	
	10	US- 2003/0004507 A1	01-02-2003	Francischelli, et al	
	11	US- 2003/0073991 A1	04-17-2003	Francischelli, et al	
	12	US- 6,517,536	02-11-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	13	US- 6,546,935	04-15-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	14	US- 2003/0125729 A1	07-03-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	15	US- 2003/0093068 A1	03-15-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	16	US- 2003/0032952 A1	03-13-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	17	US- 2003/0018329 A1	01-23-2003	Hooven, Michael D.	
	18	US- 2002/0107514 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	19	US- 2002/0115993 A1	08-22-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	20	WO 02 / 087454 A1	11-07-2002	Medtronic, Inc.		

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SignatureDate
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	21	US- 2002/0107513 A1	08-08-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	22	US- 2002/0103484 A1	08-01-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	23	US- 2002/0091384 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	24	US- 2002/0091383 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	25	US- 2002/0091382 A1	07-11-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	26	US- 2002/0032440 A1	03-14-2002	Hooven, Michael D.	
	27	US- 2001/0031961 A1	10-18-2001	Hooven, Michael D.	
	28	US- 6,488,680	12-03-2002	Francischelli et al.	
	29	US- 6,267,761	07-31-2001	Ryan	
	30	US- 6,273,887	08-14-2001	Yamauchi et al.	
	31	US- 6,296,640	10-02-2001	Wampler et al.	
	32	US- 6,391,024	05-21-2002	Sun et al.	
	33	US- 2001/0039419 A1	11-08-2001	Francischelli et al.	
	34	US- 6,277,117	08-21-2001	Tetzlaff et al.	
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		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	35	WO 01/82812 A1	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	36	WO 01/82813 A2	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		
	37	WO 01/82813 A3	11-08-2001	Medtronic, Inc.		

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Sheet	3	of	3

<i>C m p l e t e i f K n o w n</i>	
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[illegible]Date
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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